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Conference News - June



UCC General Synod Comes to Neighboring Florida Conference

The bi-annual national gathering of the United Church of Christ, General Synod, will gather in Tampa, Florida, July 1st through the 5th, and over 45 people from the Southeast Conference will be attending as visitors and in official capacities. The Southeast Conference has seven delegates. Other delegates from our Conference serving on the Boards of Covenant Ministries of the UCC will be attending as well. The Conference is proud that "one of our own," Elizabeth Clement, a member of First Congregational UCC, Atlanta, will be preaching at the closing worship service of General Synod.

[Link here for more information](#) on the Synod event and list of delegates.



SECUCC eNewsletter

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Introducing the New Members of the Southeast Conference Board of Directors

At our 2011, Annual Meeting the Conference elected a number of people to the Board of Directors. The new members reflect the growing diversity of the conference in many ways including geography, gender, race, orientation, age, the newness of their congregation to the UCC, and other factors. We are delighted to welcome the following people to our Board:



Jennifer Spears: Jennifer was elected secretary of the board. She is a member of a newly affiliated church, Garden of Grace UCC, Columbia, SC. She has recently been licensed for ministry there, and is working alongside of the pastor, Andy Sidden.

Jimmy Loyless: Elected treasurer, Jimmy and his wife Beth are long time members of the United Church of Christ. Jimmy is a member of Pilgrimage UCC, Marietta, GA. He has recently retired from working with the FDIC.

Chris Lyman-Waldron: Chris is the pastor of Praxis UCC, Atlanta. Chris was elected to

serve as the Southeast Conference representative on the Board of the Covenanted Ministry Justice and Witness Ministry.

Jeremy Rich: Jeremy, who has served as a General Synod delegate before this, is the pastor of Bethany Congregational UCC, Thomasville, GA. He is a participant in TAP.

Carrole Moss: Carrole, a longtime member of the UCC who came to the South from Connecticut, is a member of Victory for the World UCC, Stone Mountain. She also serves on the Committee on Ministry of the Georgia South Carolina Association and is a graduate of TAP.

Leslie Etheredge: Leslie is the associate pastor at Church of the Savior, Knoxville.

Jennifer Austin: Jennifer is the volunteer coordinator and administrator at Holy Trinity Community UCC, Nashville.

Angela Balfour Franklin: A member of First Congregational Christian UCC, Birmingham, Angela works for the Birmingham News, and recently served as a UCC missionary in South Africa.

Larry Calbert: Larry is returning to the Board after a several year absence. He is the pastor of Rush Memorial UCC, Atlanta, and serves on the Committee on Ministry of the Georgia-South Carolina Association.

These gifted people who were elected replace the following people who have retired from the board having served their terms: **Bette Grave Thomas, Paul Hiltman, John Gill, Elizabeth Clement, and Bob Watson.** Welcome to all who join us, and thank you to all those who have retired!

OCWM Continuing Testament, Extravagant Welcome, Changing Lives!

Long ago, I was talking to the chair of a mission committee, who proudly said to me, "Our church gives to mission; we don't support bureaucracy, so we don't give to OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission)." She was reflecting what I have experienced as a local church pastor sitting with a finance committee as it takes a long look at the annual budget, and the comment is made that, "Well, we can cut OCWM another \$3,000, that won't hurt us." In both of those misperceptions, what is lost is that OCWM is not "just out there," OCWM is who we are. The Southeast Conference has called for churches to celebrate OCWM Sunday on September 18th, to help us all understand that OCWM is about us not a "them" outside our walls.

[Link here for more information](#) on OCWM and September 18 materials.

SEC Clergy "Seize the Dinner" | Prior to Annual Meeting

By Kathy Clark

On the Friday prior to this year's Annual Meeting, clergy and their partners or spouses from throughout the Southeast Conference came together for an evening of fellowship, relationship building, and directed conversation over dinner. ***We came. We ate. We conversed.*** For the first time in several years, clergy from all over the Southeast Conference gathered for a fellowship event at the Carpe Diem Restaurant in Atlanta. Nearly 50 clergy and significant others seized this opportunity to share dinner and conversation with colleagues. The room was full, the food was good and fellowship was vibrant.

[Link here to read more](#) about the event.



United Church of Christ | Women's Southern Regional Meeting

October 7-9, 2011 | Blowing Rock, NC | [Link to Register Early!](#)

Join other women from across the south for a faith inspired look towards wholeness. Meet friends from past regional meetings. Relax in the beautiful surroundings of the North Carolina mountains. Renew spirit, vitality and power. [Link here to read additional information](#) on the event.

What About Summer School This Year?

The Place Church Leaders Go to Learn



> July 14 - August 11 | Course

Making Making Churches Safe (for all God's Children) | Jaime Romo

> July 14 | Webinar

The Church Mouse: Leadership Lessons from the Magic Kingdom

> July 19 | Webinar

RENEWAL

Liberating Hope: Daring to Renew the Mainline Church

> July 28 | Webinar

Getting them to “Like” us: Ten Tips for using Social Media

Register today and take advantage of summer specials.

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FAVORITE LINKS

- ▶ Bridge 4 Faith
- ▶ The Center for Progressive Renewal
- ▶ United Church of Christ
- ▶ Mission Insite
- ▶ [Resource Center](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

July 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

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